



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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NEWS RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA – United States Attorney Michael L. Levy today announced the filing of a two-count information¹ charging Cursheena Patterson with one count of conspiracy to commit unauthorized access fraud and one count of aggravated identity theft. According to the information, from October through December, 2008, Patterson obtained the names, addresses, social security numbers and dates of birth of more than fifteen individuals through her employment, and provided that information to another person who used the identities of those individuals to open up accounts at Home Depot, Lowes and Best Buy. Also according to the information, these fraudulently opened accounts were used to purchase more than \$50,000 worth of merchandise. If convicted, Patterson faces a maximum sentence of 7 years in prison, including a mandatory two year prison term, a \$500,000 fine and three years supervised release.

The case was investigated by the United States Secret Service, the East Norriton Township Police Department and the Montgomery County District Attorneys Office. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Judy Goldstein Smith.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANT

| NAME | ADDRESS | AGE |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----|
| Cursheena Patterson | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania | 24 |

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¹An Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.